

YALE UNIVERSITY
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE AFFAIRS
HAROLD B. WHITEMAN, JR., Dean

July 28, 1955

DRAWER 1904 A
YALE STATION

Mr. J. Breckinridge Speed
424 Mayfair Lane
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Breck:

Once more I am confronted by the troublesome question of Rheingold Girls, beer, and freshman parties. I am quite convinced that the responsible leadership of both the Nega and WISC--since I understand this to be a double-header--has gone and is going to great lengths to avoid the possibility of either the unpleasantness that has surrounded this affair in past years or the almost incredible sort of public misrepresentation and seemingly deliberate falsification that has taken place in the case of the September issue of High-Hush. (I do not fancy the position of a dean recommending this sort of publication, but if you have not already seen it, you might take a look just to see what can happen.)

I have given the subject of these parties much thought and have conferred with the Chief of the Campus Police. We are fully aware of the good intention you and your colleagues hold in proposing to move these parties outdoors and give you full credit for this.

Nevertheless, I have firmly resolved that I can under no circumstances permit the continuation of a large party to which freshmen are given a blanket invitation and at which beer is served. Therefore you must make your plans accordingly.

If you wish a small party, held either within your own offices or at Mary's, limited to your guests and the members of your own organization, that will be entirely acceptable. If you wish, together with the Nega or independently, to bring your guests to the Outing at Hammonasset for a token appearance, that too will be entirely acceptable, provided no beer comes with them. The gist of this decision is that I simply do not want freshmen involved in any way, with the possible exception of Hammonasset.

If this places you in any embarrassing situation with an advertiser, I sincerely regret it. You will simply have to inform the Rheingold people that the University has forbidden the continuation of the previous type of party.

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My reasons for this decision are threefold: I object to Yale's being used for commercial purposes; I do not wish to introduce freshmen to Yale in this fashion; and finally, although it is a minor consideration, I do not want to run the risk of more trouble and publicity of the type mentioned above. I sincerely hope you will give me your complete cooperation. As always, the whole structure of our extracurricular life depends upon the responsible leaders being just that.

I am sending a similar letter to the News.

Yours very sincerely,

HBW/jdc
CC: T.E. Callahan
J.A. Erens
J.R. Bowers
C.H. Sanford
J. Boorsch

H.B. Whitteman Jr

